

# Spectrum



Photo by Charmain Z. Brackett

(Right) Sgt. 1st Class Richard McIntosh, the Forward Operating Base mayor, talks about the tent city to a group of former Signal Soldiers holding their reunion at Fort Gordon on Sept. 12.

## Signal veterans glimpse surprise warfare training

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After attendees of the 1st Signal Brigade reunion toured the Regimental Noncommissioned Officers Academy's Forward Operating Base on Sept. 12, they got to see some additional training they weren't expecting.

Over the FOB's loud speakers, the sound of Islamic chanting flooded the FOB's interior, and then the sounds of voices shouting came near the gate.

Two noncommissioned officers portrayed an Islamic man and his pregnant wife. They were asking for a doctor.

Within seconds, smoke-filled canisters were on the ground releasing plumes of white, yellow and purple smoke, and just as quickly, armed Soldiers filed out of the FOB.

They knelt and fired rounds into the woods where shots were being fired at them. Quickly, they headed into the woods to find their attackers.

Three attackers were quickly subdued and detained.

The scenari ended the 30 minute tour at the FOB, where attendees learned about the FOB set-up, visited four different areas including the communications tent and the tent city.

Sgt. 1st Class Richard McIntosh, FOB mayor, briefed them on the tent city and fielded a few questions.

"We are in the highest location at Fort Gordon, which makes us more vulnerable to lightning strikes," he said.

Grounding features are used to alleviate some of the risk with the metal-framed tents.

McIntosh thanked the men of the 1st Brigade for their service; most of them served during the Vietnam War era.

"Thank you for paving the way," he said. "My father was a Vietnam veteran, and I want to thank you for what you went through."



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Two noncommissioned officers portray an Islamic man and his wife who pretended to need medical care.



Photo by Marlene Thompson

Plumes of smoke obstruct their view, but Soldiers head into the woods after the assailants attacked their base during a training exercise at the Noncommissioned Officers Academy Forward Operating Base Sept. 12.



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(Above) Soldiers involved in a training exercise stream out of the Forward Operating Base to mount a counter offensive against insurgents who have disappeared into the brush surrounding the FOB. (Left) One of the attackers is captured and blindfolded by a Soldier. (Right) Another insurgent is captured and escorted back to the base for interrogation.



Photo by Marlene Thompson